

Forest Harvest Contracts

*Best Management Practices
for water quality while
harvesting forest products*

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PRIVATE LANDOWNERS SHOULD SELL TIMBER THROUGH A WRITTEN CONTRACT, A LEGALLY BINDING DOCUMENT THAT PROTECTS BOTH THE LANDOWNER AND THE BUYER BY LISTING AND CLARIFYING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH PARTY.

The contract should be drafted or approved by an attorney representing the landowner who is familiar with timber transactions. At a minimum, a contract should:

- Require the use of BMPs and name the person responsible for their implementation.
- Require that the buyer abide by all local, state, and federal laws and regulations.
- Specify the location of log landings, truck and skid roads
- Describe the timber being sold, its location, and the method of determining which trees will be cut.
- Describe the location of the property and require that the boundaries of the sale be marked.
- Specify the amount of board feet or cords to be harvested and the manner, time, and method of payment.

- Specify the time period covered by the contract.
- Include any special considerations or stipulations that either party may require.
- Consider requiring a performance bond to ensure that BMP's are implemented.



